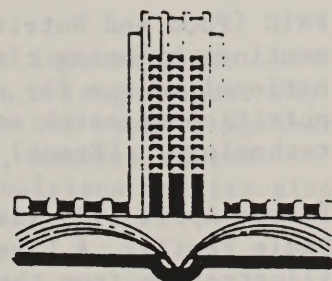


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SCIENCE AND EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIONOFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
TECHNICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY BUILDING
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND 20705

TIS NEWS NOTES

No. 11, June 1981

IT'S NAL AGAIN

Technical Information Systems has been redesignated the National Agricultural Library (NAL)! The latest reorganization announced by Secretary of Agriculture John Block became effective June 17, 1981. Science and Education Administration is abolished. Our new USDA base is called Science and Education (S & E). It now has a Director, but the 1981 Farm Bill calls for that Director to become an Assistant Secretary.

The National Agricultural Library has been reestablished as an agency level unit in the Department reporting to the Assistant Secretary for Science and Education. Dr. Richard A. Farley has been designated as Acting Director. Physical moves will be held to a minimum. Most units in the NAL building will remain in place. Organizationally, however, Food and Nutrition Information Center will be transferred to the newly established Human Nutrition Service; CRIS functions are reassigned to Cooperative State Research Service; and EMIS/SEMIS functions are assigned to Extension Service. An administrative management unit under the Assistant Secretary for Science and Education will serve the four redesignated agencies - Agricultural Research Service, Extension Service, Cooperative State Research Service, and the National Agricultural Library - for personnel, budget, financial, and other administrative support activities. This unit will also be responsible for the Management Information Systems Office (MISO), and administration of international programs. The SEA Information Staff will be continued. The Merit Pay Plan for grades GM 13-15 will be administered within the TIS framework as it stood on June 16, 1981.

Use up all the "old" stationary. If old NAL stationary is available use it. Instructions will be issued for new standard letterheads. The NAL Organization Chart will be reworked. (Farley)

NOW APPEARING ...

Check your 1981 edition of the Bowker Annual for an article on Technical Information Systems/National Agricultural Library by Eugene Farkas, Chief, Educational Resources Division (ERD). The article outlines ERD's expanded education and training program for current and potential users of TIS agricultural information systems and services to assure broader public awareness of our resources and responsibilities. Also highlighted: the new videotape and demo center located in the South Building, nutrition information, document delivery, citations for AGRIS, and the cooperative education program. (Moran)

FNIC (Food and Nutrition Information Center, ERD) received a lion's share of mentions by being cited recently in six publications as an outstanding national source for nutrition-related audiovisuals and information regarding nutrition research and education, food, food service management, and food technology. (Frank)

In the April 1979 issues of the Smithsonian Magazine, an article entitled "The Peale Family: A Lively Mixture of Art and Science" included a full-color illustration from the unpublished Drawings of American Insects. This unique manuscript is in the National Agricultural Library Historic and Rare Book Collection, authored by Titian Ramsay Peale I (1780-1798), a child genius who was at work on this manuscript when he died at the age of 18 of yellow fever. In recognition of the magazine's tenth anniversary, the Smithsonian is preparing a special anthology of selected articles and illustrations from the magazine's 1970-1979 issues. The previously mentioned full-color illustration by Titian I will be reproduced in the Best of the Smithsonian (August 1981). (Fusonie)

MORE ON ELECTRONIC MAIL

Potential applications of electronic mail in the CRIS program are being reviewed. Retrieval requests were identified as one of the initial applications to implement. ISD staff will be working with DIALCOM to develop a formatted questionnaire similar to the AD-427 which would assist State research organizations in making CRIS requests. It may also be used by participants to submit new projects, financial information, and progress reports. Also identified for future application were CALS profile requests.

Utilization of the electronic mail system to date has exceeded expectations and telephone communications from State Extension Service contact persons indicate a high degree of enthusiasm for the use of this new tool. The first contract for the new system has been received from the Missouri Extension Service. (Myers)

POULTRY EXHIBIT FEATURED

The lobby exhibit for June is sponsored by the American Poultry Historical Society. To honor and recognize persons for outstanding achievement or leadership and in the industry, the Society has provided NAL with portraits of the 1980 selections to the Poultry Hall of Fame.

MOBILE BOOK UNIT VISIT

The Academic Press Mobile Exhibit arrived at NAL on June 9. This traveling exhibit displayed over 1,500 books and journals of interest to scientists, researchers, and technicians located at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

LYNG TO OPEN SUGAR SHOW HERE

Mark your calendar for July 9, 3 p.m., for the formal opening of the exhibit "Green Fields: Two Hundred Years of Louisiana Sugar," a 185-frame pictorial exhibit assembled by the Center for Louisiana Studies of the University of

Southwestern Louisiana to tell the story of the sugar cane industry, its people, and its distinctive culture. The exhibit will run through August 28, 1981. Richard E. Lyng, Deputy Secretary for USDA, will be the keynote speaker at the July 9 dedication here. Louisiana State officials, members of the congressional delegation, and staff from the Center for Louisiana Studies also are also expected to be present for the opening.

NOTABLE GIFT ACQUISITIONS

Mr. Charles Bare, Weed Science Laboratory, SEA, has donated 70 volumes of the Proceedings and Research Reports of the Southern Weed Science Society, Western Society of Weed Science, and Northeastern Weed Science Society enabling us to fill out our collection on these valuable and rare publications. In addition, a unique annotated index to the holdings of the Guayule Emergency Rubber Project, compiled and sent to us by Clyde F. Reed, will aid in accessing the large collection established in the first half of this century on a topic of high current interest. (Kulp)

Since 1975, NAL has been the official repository for the archival records of the American Agricultural Editor's Association (AAEA). John M. Pitzer, Chairman of their historical committee, deposited additional correspondence files and photographs. This growing archival collection is of value to researchers interested in the historical development, trends, changes, individuals, and influences involving agricultural information, farm journalism, and the role of agriculture editors in disseminating information. These archives should also serve as a retrospective documentary basis for reassessments, surveys, and for future planning and development. (Fusonie)

SHOW AND TELL

The staff of the D.C. Branch provided an introduction to the services available at DCB to a selected group of Forest Service units. In response to a request from Richard Knox, Leader, Technology Transfer, FS, the TIS audiovisual show, "The Information Cycle" was shown and our staff demonstrated and discussed AGRICOLA, ABI/INFORM, BRS, CALS, and CRIS. (Brownlee)

NURSERY AND SEED TRADE CATALOG

Ms. Nora Oakes, representing the city of Havre de Grace, Maryland, examined our early 20th century nursery catalogs for background material for inclusion in the city's historic farm project. Our early Japanese Nursery and Seed Trade Catalogs were of particular interest to Ronald Jefferson, U.S. National Arboretum, who had just returned from Japan as a guest of the Japanese government. Thomas Hughes, Maransort, Belgium, has established a potato museum in Belgium and was interested in descriptions and illustrations of early potato varieties. Where did he turn to for help?--you guessed it--NAL's U.S. Nursery Catalog. (Lassanyi)

JURIS USER ASSISTANCE

The Law Library is offering assistance and training to JURIS users. E. Billings, attorney on the Law Library staff, is working with new users and those who wish "refresher training" on the spot. Attorneys who wish assistance with their research through JURIS are being encouraged through

their OGC Law Library Committee members to contact Mr. Billings. The initial experiences have been very successful and show the benefits of an attorney working directly with someone familiar with the "hands on" operating techniques and appropriate background in legal language/research in order to achieve maximum successful utilization of available computer-assisted legal information. (Terry)

CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES

Information requested by members of congress was provided on such topics as gift and state taxes, information gathering systems in SEA, honey locust, Agricultural Act of 1980, green light for grain, wood production in Central America, establishing and managing farming, orchards, renovating old farm houses, cleaning and waterproofing of mason buildings, and food economy of Poland.

REFERENCE DESK

The reference desk functions are going relatively smooth to date due to the cooperative efforts on the part of those librarians and technical information specialists who share this responsibility. Newly assigned reference assistants are Ms. Brownlee, Mr. Cheney, Mr. Rafats, and Ms. Skamay-Meeks all of DCB, and Mr. Aragon of ERD. Our appreciation is extended to Ms. Pisa, Ms. McLean, Ms. Lassanyi, Ms. White, Ms. Lefebvre, Mr. Gilbert, and Mr. Longnecker for the time and knowledge they give to this program. This fine staff plans to meet regularly to review and discuss the problematic and more difficult inquiries, to keep abreast of new reference tools, and to exchange other pertinent information to better serve our patrons. (Lassanyi)

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS DURING MAY*

Dr. Bartosevich, Director of the Agricultural Library in Nitra, Slovak S.R.,
Czechoslovakia

T. N. Khoshoo, Director, National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow,
India

Mr. Lasram, Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, Ariana, Tunisia
Julie Te Groen, Chief Librarian, Cape Provincial Library Service, Cape Town
South Africa

Mr. and Mrs. Alfradar, Siposs, Budapest, Hungary
Gejza Bartosiewicz, Nite, Czechoslovakia

*Compiled from various monthly reports - TIS Newsnotes take no responsibility for the correct spelling of names.

TIS AWARDS CEREMONY

TIS presented awards to staff employees at a special awards ceremony on Friday, May 29, 1981. This fourth annual awards ceremony was held in the lobby of the National Agricultural Library building, Beltsville, Maryland. Elaine McLaughlin, Food and Nutrition Information Center, TIS acted as Mistress of Ceremonies. The keynote speaker was Charles Benton, Chairman of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Sciences. Benton was accompanied by Dr. Toni Carbo Bearman, Executive Director of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Sciences.

Six group performance awards were presented to staff by their respective division chiefs.

Indexing Section. In appreciation for continued contribution to the work of the Indexing Section and to the mission of the National Agricultural Library resulting in outstanding productivity. Recipients were Elizabeth Dolina, Shirley H. Gaventa, Albert F. Johnson, Carrie Johnson, Vera K. Junger, Elmer Kiss, Wei Ping Liao, Ruby V. Miller, Kathleen F. O'Leary, Anita S. Speight, Arlene R. Sperber, Maydelle Stewart, Alfred D. Straughan, Janet L. Strickling, Barbara G. Thompson, Martin L. Weinrich, Judith A. Winesdorfer, and Mike A. Yiallouris.

Cataloging Section. In appreciation for continued contribution to the work of the Cataloging Section and the National Agricultural Library resulting in outstanding productivity. Recipients were Claudia Azarenko, Evelyn Brown, Joyce Brown, Sue Bull, Laura Colbert, Nelda Colign, Irene Glennon, Patricia John, Richard Kreiner, Edna Liu, Frances Mark, Irene Millard, Donald North, Shirley Paull, Ingebjorg Powers, Joann Rector, Annette Rojas, Suzanne Socker, Shirley Souder, Gabor Szent-Ivany, Michael Thompson, Helen White, Otto Wilkins, Elizabeth Whiting, Rebecca Younger.

Three Group Awards for Performance were presented to members of the Lending Branch. The Interlibrary Borrowing Unit - Diana Claburn, Marianne Davies, Nancy Raff, Vicki Pessagno, and Shirley Taylor - for their unusual offer and courageous work undertaking to handle 12,000 requests from October through January (approximately 102,000 pages of copying), rarely slipping from the response time of 24-36 hours after receipt of the request in the photoduplication lab.

Charles Newsom, William Phelps, Isaac Sams, and Dreama Black were cited for achievement of goals despite loss of personnel and exceptional loss of duty time of remaining personnel.

Wallace Reeves, Earl Wallace, Josephine McDowell, Janette Lewis, Ethel Claiborne, and Joseph Pirrone were recognized for their achievement in restoring order to the collections and thereby enabling improvement in services by reducing response time and increasing retrieval rate.

Recognition was given Nelda Coligan, Irene Glennon, Frances Mark, Suzanne Socker, Gabor Szent-Ivany, and Beth Whiting in appreciation for continued contribution to the work of the Cataloging Section of the National Agricultural Library by directing special projects resulting in the implementation of AACR 2.

Ten individual merit awards were presented:

David R. Hoyt²: For superior performance in his outstanding contribution to the quality and success of the TIS videotape "The Information Cycle."

Arlene R. Sperber: Quality Step Increase for outstanding contributions to the programs of the Indexing Section, National Agricultural Library, Technical Information Systems, and the AGRICOLA Data Base.

Veronica A. Lefebvre: By her quick perceptive analysis, balanced and practical understanding, insight, consistent care, thoroughness, reasonable and fair judgement, Mrs. Lefebvre has performed her work in a superior manner.

Edith Fifer: Quality Step Increase for outstanding performance of secretarial duties, reflecting superior work habits and use of good judgement and tact in carrying out day to day assignments.

Melody Aragon: By her consistent thoroughness and accuracy and prompt handling of large amounts, has performed in a superior manner.

Marie I. Boone: For substantial contribution to the programs of the Analysis Branch, TIS.

Iris D. Irby: Outstanding work in preparation and presentation of duties relating to the celebration of Black History Month in February 1981.

Virginia C. Keeton: Through her extraordinary efforts and while maintaining full performance of her routine duties, the branch was able to handle the required additional duties while maintaining normal production levels.

Hazel Pollard: For management efforts in substantially reducing the backlog of the Current Awareness Literature Service (CALs) and improving turnaround during a period of continued growth and expansion.

Dennis C. Unglesbee: For exceptional effort in supporting the special information needs of Cooperative Research for the FY 1982 budget development process and for developing an accurate and reliable data base under severe time constraints for the FY 1983 budget development process.

William B. Feidt: For extremely valuable contribution to the entire food and human nutrition community throughout the world by this efforts in updating the AGRICOLA data base with over a whole year's compilation of bibliographic citations. The circumstances under which this task was achieved are the reasons this accomplishment is truly meritorious.

Length of Service Awards were presented in the following categories:

10 Years: Michael E. Chisley, Richard A. Farley, Patricia L. John, David J. Lee, Jayne T. McLean, Mary L. Silva, Dennis C. Unglesbee, and Beverly A. Kohn.

20 Years: Dean F. Gamble, Samuel T. Waters, and Marilyn J. Forgie.

25 Years: Wei Ping Liao, Donald M. North, and Ronald B. Young.

30 Years: Mattie M. Parker, Tatiana B. Tontarski, and Carl F. Younger.

35 Years: Sue G. Bull, M. Madonna McCullough, Kathleen E. Stepney, Vern J. Van Dyke, and Margaret P. Kennedy